ing steps for ensuring better disposal of cases:—

(a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped by several High Courts;

(b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;

(c) Dispensing with printing of records;

(d) Expediting ond giving priority to matters under certain Acts.

6. The recommendations contained in the 79th Report of the Law Commission have been examined. As action on majority of the recommenadtions is to be taken by the State Gvernments and the High Courts, these have been sent to them alongwith the views of the Union Government and they have been requested to take necessary action.

7. The Government have entrusted the Law Commission, the study of the judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The t rms of reference are :—

(a) the need for decentralisation of the system of administration of justice by :

(i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas, the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;

(ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and pwers in suitable areas and centres;

(iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and High Courts.

(b) the matters for which Tribunals (excluding Services Tribunals) as envisaged in Part-XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working.

(c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing of cases expeditiously eliminating unnecessary litigation delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the forums envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii).

(d) the method of appointments to subordinate courts, subordinate judiciary.

(e) the training of Judicial Officers.

(f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of administration of justice.

(g) the desirability of formulation of the norms which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review of the present system for conduct of litigation on behalf of the Government and such Undertakings.

(h) the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants.

(i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and

(j) such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purposes aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

Electronic voting machines

899. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have cleared the proposal for introduction of electronic voting machines for elections in the country; and

(b) if so, by when the electronic voting machines will be brought in action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Government have taken a preliminary decision accepting the recommendation of the Election Commission that electronic voting machines be introduced in elections to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies, as part of the proposals to improve the present election system. A final decision will be taken only after consultation with the political parties.

(b) It will not be possible to give any definite indication because consultations with the political parties are to be held first and then on the basis of agreement reached, the relevant laws have to be announced. These processes will take some time.

High Court Bench at Raipur

900. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by the Central Government to set up a High Court Bench at Raipur in Madhya Pradesh in pursuance of Jaswant Singh Commission's Report;

(b) whether the matter has been referred to M.P. State Government; if so, what is the reaction of the State Government; and

(c) whether in view of the agitation in Bhopal and Jabalpur, Government are thinking of adopting a different course of action, which would be against the specific recommendations of the Jaswant Singh's Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c) The specific recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Commission regarding setting up of a bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court have been referred to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for their comments and views. Further action in the matter could be taken by the Government of India only after receipt of fresh proposal from the State Government.

Meeting with Indian Confederation of Engineering Industry

901. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken into consideration the deliberations made at the two-day "National Meeting on India" held recently which was attended to by the leading businessmen from the West and other parts of the world together with the Indian Confederation of Engineering Industry; and

(b) if so, what are the views of the Central Governmentl on the subject and the impact on the development of industry in the country particularly on joint ventures in India and Third World countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes Sir. Such meeting was held on 23-24 March, 1987.

(b) The meeting was private and was not sponsored by Government. though Ministers and Government Officails participated in the meeting to explain India's industrial, fiscal and trade policies to the foreign industrialists and businessmen gathered there. No formal conclusions were arrived at the meeting which were communicated to the Government.